

# South Dakota

## PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

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News Release

March 31, 2000

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### ***INTENDED LARGE INCREASE IN SOYBEANS***

**SIOUX FALLS, March 31, 2000** – Producers in South Dakota intend to plant an additional half-million acres of soybeans this year. Increased acreage is also expected in corn while wheat and sunflower planting intentions are down. Any planting changes due to weather or other factors will be accounted for when actual plantings are obtained in early June. This is according to preliminary estimates compiled and released by USDA's South Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service.

**Soybean** plantings are expected to total 4.60 million acres, up 12 percent from last year's record of 4.10 million acres.

**Corn** plantings are expected to be 3.90 million acres, up 8 percent from 1999, but similar to the previous few years.

**Sunflower** acreage is expected to total 755,000 acres, down 18 percent from last year. **Oil sunflowers** accounted for 700,000 acres, down 20 percent from 1999. **Non-oil sunflowers** accounted for 55,000 acres, up 10 percent from 1999.

**Sorghum** planted acreage is expected to total 150,000 acres, down 25 percent from last year.

**Winter wheat** acres seeded last fall totaled 1.35 million acres, unchanged from the previous estimate, but up 4 percent from last year.

**Other spring wheat** seeding intentions are at 1.40 million acres, down 20 percent from 1999's 1.75 million acres.

**Durum wheat** seeding intentions, at 15,000 acres, are down 73 percent from last year.

**Oats** seeded, estimated at 250,000 acres, are down 22 percent from 1999.

**Barley** seeded, estimated at 70,000 acres, are down 12 percent from 1999.

**Dry edible bean** acres are estimated at 11,000 acres.

**All hay** harvested acreage is estimated at 3.90 million acres, down 2 percent from last year.

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